

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 6 and 11 being independent.

The independent claims and selected dependent claims have been amended to further distinguish Applicants' invention from the cited art.

The amendments to the claims were not presented earlier as it was believed that the previously presented claims would be found allowable. This Amendment does not add any additional claims. Moreover, the Examiner's familiarity with the subject matter of the present application will allow an appreciation of the significance of the amendments herein without undue expenditure of time and effort. Finally, the Amendment does not raise new issues requiring further consideration or search. Accordingly, it is submitted that entry of the Amendment is appropriate.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Lieu '585 in view of Kai '346. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 of Applicants' invention relates to a coordinate input device for generating a coordinate value corresponding to light coming from a pointing tool. The device includes a plurality of sensing means, arranged for one coordinate axis, for sensing the light, wherein light receiving areas of the plurality of sensing means have an overlapping portion, and measurement means for measuring peak levels of data sensed by the plurality of sensing means arranged for the one coordinate axis. Comparison means compares the measured peak levels, and selection means selects one of the plurality of sensing means arranged for the one coordinate axis on the basis of the comparison result. In addition, output means outputs a coordinate value corresponding to the light on the basis of the selected sensing means.

Claims 6 and 11 relate to a method of controlling a coordinate input device and a computer readable memory which stores a program for controlling a coordinate input device, respectively, and correspond generally to Claim 1. These claims have thus been amended to provide for a plurality of sensors to be arranged for one coordinate axis and adapted to sense the light, with light-receiving areas of a plurality of sensors having an overlapping portion. Additionally, one of the plurality of sensors arranged for the one coordinate axis is selected based on a comparison result of measured peak levels, and a coordinate value is output corresponding to the light on the basis of the selected sensor.

In accordance with Applicants' claimed invention, an economical and high performance coordinate input device can be provided.

The primary citation to Lieu relates to digitizer and stylus combination. With reference to Figure 1, a digitizer board includes a pair of reflectors 41 and 42, and a pair of focusing lenses 51 and 52. CCD image receivers 61 and 62 receive light from the focusing lenses and convert this light to electrical signals. As shown in Figure 1, the image receivers are disposed on orthogonal sides of an interior plate 15.

The secondary citation to Kai relates to a coordinate input device and was cited for its teaching of measurement means for measuring peak levels of data sensed by a plurality of sensing means, comparison means for comparing the measured peak levels, and selection means for selecting a sensing result.

In contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, however, neither Lieu nor Kai teaches or suggests, among other features, a plurality of light sensors arranged for one coordinate axis, with light-receiving areas of the sensors having an overlapping portion. As discussed above, the image receivers 61 and 62 in Lieu are disposed in an orthogonal position with respect

to each other. Kai, on the other hand, relates to a touch sensitive coordinate input device and does not sense light.

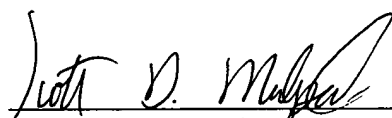
Accordingly, the proposed combination of art, even if proper, still fails to teach or suggest Applicants' claimed invention. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

It is submitted, therefore, that Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 1, 6 and 11 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 2-5 and 7-10 set forth additional features of the invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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